

Remarks/Arguments

In an Office Action mailed May 18, 2004 (the "Office Action"), the Examiner:

- A. Allowed claims 1-70, 74-82, 101, and 106-112; and
- B. Rejected claims 83-100.

REMARKS

A. Allowance of claims 1-70, 74-82, 101, and 106-112

Claims 1 and 112 have been cancelled. Claims 7, 12, 16, 18, 26, 30, 33, 34, 37, 38, 47-55, 57, 62, 63, 69, 70, 76-78, 101, 106-111 have been amended to depend on claim 2 rather than on claim 1.

B. Rejection of claims 83-100

Claims 83-100 have been cancelled without prejudice.

C. New claims 113 and 114

Claims 113 and 114 have been added. These new claims are fully supported by the specification.

D. New Invention Disclosure Statement

A new invention disclosure statement is also being submitted. This statement includes U.S. Patent 6,647,373, which issued on November 11, 2003.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, the rejections in the Office Action dated May 18, 2004 are believed to be traversed, and Applicants request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner believes a discussion of the above would be useful, he is invited to call the Applicants' attorney, Dr. Robert Beyers, at (650) 843-7528.

Respectfully submitted,

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